US-A-5,508,341; these are brought to reaction with one another by suitable catalysts, the water in the pores of the gel that forms is exchanged for a suitable organic solvent, and then the gel is dried supercritically.

Following the claims, please insert an abstract of the disclosure as follows:

-- Abstract of the Disclosure

A method for producing organically modified aerogels with permanently hydrophobic surface groups comprises the steps of providing a lyogel into a reactor, washing the lyogel in the reactor with an organic solvent, surface-silylating the washed lyogel, and drying the surface-silylated lyogel. The surface-silylating agent comprises a disiloxane of the formula:

$$R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}SiR_3$$

wherein the residues R, independently of one another, identically or differently, signify in each case a hydrogen atom or a nonreactive organic residue that is linear, branched, cyclic, saturated or unsaturated, or aromatic or heteroaromatic. --

The foregoing abstract of the disclosure is provided on a separate sheet included as **Attachment A** to this paper. (on separate page)

In the Claims

Included as **Attachment B** to this paper is a complete set of the claims of the subject application showing the amendments incorporated in the claims below. **Attachment B** is entitled **Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**.

Please amend the claims as follows: